

# Boston Connects, Incorporated Boston Empowerment Zone

2201 Washington Street

#### **BOARD MINUTES**

December 17, 2002

**Members Present:** Mike Vance – *President*, Robert Kinney – *Vice President*, Mike Foley – *Treasurer*, Gloria Coney

- Clerk, Rev. Gerald Bell, Ralph Cooper, Michael F. Glavin, Betty Greene, George Greenidge,

Charlotte Golar-Richie, Joanne Hilferty, Ruth Moy, John Wagner and Juanita Wade

Members Absent: Jose Barros, Ella Everett, Judy Flashner, Mark Maloney, Valerie Pruitt and Pat Riddick

**'03 Board Members:** Frederick Umeh, Elizabeth Miranda

BCI Staff: Christine Araujo, Shirley Carrington, Inez Foster, and Sherry O'Brien

Guests: Ken Barnes, Michelle Trousil Ex-Officio: Senator Dianne Wilkerson

Meeting called to order at 6:15 p.m.

Introductions were made.

#### 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Araujo made a correction to Page 1 and the beginning of Page 2 of the September 2002 minutes in reference to the Work Readiness with a Rehabilitation component. The minutes should reflect that this is a new RFP and not a reissued RFP. Mr. Foley corrected the language in the Education and Job Readiness Committee Report regarding ex-offender issues. Given the funding source, the text should reflect that services should focus on Zone residents.

**Motion:** To accept the minutes of the September 24, 2002 Business meeting with the necessary corrections.

By: Mrs. Greene Second: Mr. Glavin

**Recused:** 0 **Abstained:** 0 **Opposed:** 0

**Motion:** Carried

#### 2. PRESIDENTS REPORT

Mr. Vance thanked the Board for the cards, calls, and expressions of sympathy for his loss. He expressed appreciation for the Board's flexibility in rescheduling meetings.

Crosstown Center groundbreaking was held on November 19<sup>th</sup>. He thanked the staff and Board for all of the work put into the process of getting to the groundbreaking. He commented on how all Board members learned a lot about hotel financing. He spoke of the importance of the project and the long-term sustainability of BCI.

Mr. Vance thanked Board members who attended the last Executive Committee meeting and stated the goal is to be more consistent with all committee meetings. He reminded the Board that Executive Committee meetings are open to all Board members.

Mr. Vance then asked elected members present to draw lots which would determine their terms. Outcomes are as follows:



District 1 2004 Betty Greene
District 2 2003 Gloria Coney
District 3 2005 Vacant

District 4	2005	John Harrington
District 5	2004	Judy Flashner
District 6	2004	Ella Everett
District 7	2003	Valarie Pruitt
District 8	2003	Joelee Baker Bey
District 9	2003	Robert Kinney
District 10	2005	Freddie Umeh
District 11	2004	Pat Riddick
District 12	2005	Elizabeth Miranda

Mr. Vance reminded the Board that the Nominating Committee meeting is scheduled at 5:30 p.m. on January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2003 at the Ritz-Carlton Boston Common, before the Annual Meeting. Ms. Riddick would chair the Nominating Committee. Based on discussion, the consensus was that Committee Chairs would give a 1 to 2 minute presentation on the accomplishments of the past year. The newly elected members will be seated at the Annual Meeting.

#### 3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Araujo distributed the Executive Director's report and a written report outlining the 2002 accomplishments. She spoke of how over \$12M had been allocated to programs and how there were additional programs which committees were discussing but did not yet have a financial figure attached, such as the Family Opportunity Center. She also spoke of how a total of \$313,252.99 in EEC funds had been obligated in support of ESOL programs and an additional \$152,932 in EEC funds committed.

The October 1<sup>st</sup> Tax Incentive Workshop at Northeastern University went well. The three hour event was videotaped and is available. Discussion centered on the methods of outreach used for the Tax Incentive Conference with some of the following recommendations: business to business venues; testimonies; and work with businesses that BCI has funded to provide testimonies. Ms. Araujo spoke about outreach to CDCs and asked Board members for their continued assistance.

Corporate funders are actively supporting our 2003 Annual Meeting. Special thanks need to go out to the Ritz-Carlton-Boston Common, Jack Conway Realtors, Fleet Bank, and Sovereign Bank.

HUD completed a monitoring visit to BCI. Board members were referred to a copy of the monitoring report included in their package which identified a "finding" on the Family Opportunity Center. Ms. Araujo has submitted a response documenting the process and progress the Board has made.

## 4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

## AD-HOC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Ms. Coney opened the discussion by saying that this Ad-Hoc Committee was formed to work with the Executive Director to develop a workplan which would then go to inform the budget and staffing plan. Members include Ms. Hilferty and Mr. Foley. Ms. Coney urged endorsement by all for the workplan to be successful. This is used by many organizations and does work. Board members must attend committee meeting in order to have input.

Ms. Hilferty reviewed the process of developing the workplan/budget for 2003. The work plan would be the method by which the Board identified the priorities for 2003. Once the Board had reached consensus on the priorities the next step would be to look at the budget. The goal would be for Committees to look over the work plan and for the Board to reach consensus at the January meeting and then to work on the budget for the February meeting.

# 5. OTHER BUSINESS

Senator Wilkerson mentioned that the "conflict of interest" statement as currently written is confusing. She wondered if people really understood what they were signing. She raised questions such as, what does it mean to disclose? Ms. Wade volunteered to work with the Senator on new conflict of interest language.



Senator Wilkerson announced that there would be a very important meeting of businesses interested in becoming vendors for National Democratic Committee conference to be held in 2004. The meeting will be held at Roxbury Community College on January 28<sup>th</sup>, the date of the next BCI Board meeting.

# 6. PROCUREMENT: REHABILITATION SERVICES

By: Mr. Wagner

Mr. Foley accepted the Chair, as requested by Mr. Vance. Mr. Vance, Ms. Hilferty and Mr. Kinney recused and excused themselves from the meeting as the report on the recommendations for funding Rehabilitation Services RFP was presented by Ms. Araujo

Ms. Araujo reviewed the process for selection and submitted a proposal, as follows:

Motion: To authorize the Executive Director on behalf of BCI to enter into contractual agreements with ABCD and Community Work Services for a total of \$375,000. ABCD \$200,000 and Community Work Services \$175,000.

Recused:	Ms. Hilferty Mr. Kinney Mr. Vance	Abstained: 0	Opposed: 0	
Meeting adjour	ned at 7:55 p.m.			
A true record at	ttest:			
Gloria Coney, (	Clerk		Date	

Second: Ms. Coney

